Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

Cooperative breeding and density regulation in small island populations of the Seychelles warbler

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1. The importance of translocations as a tool for conservation management can only be assessed when more studies continue monitoring after translocation[1,2].
   [1] This thesis
   [2] Fischer, J., and D. B. Lindenmayer. 2000. An assessment of the published results of animal relocations. Biological Conservation 96: 1-11.

2. Many studies have used heterozygosity measured at microsatellites as an indication of inbreeding, however this assumption is rarely met[1,2].
   [1] Chapter 6, this thesis
   [2] Slate, J., P. David, K. G. Dodds, B. A. Veenvliet, B. C. Glass, T. E. Broad and J. C. McEwan. 2004. Understanding the relationship between the inbreeding coefficient and multilocus heterozygosity: theoretical expectations and empirical data. Heredity 93:255-265.

3. Although the Seychelles warbler is seen as a classical example of extreme adaptive sex-ratio modification in birds, the evidence for this is rather weak[1,2].
   [1] Box A, this thesis
   [2] Contra Komdeur, J., S. Daan, J. Tinbergen, and C. Mateman. 1997. Extreme adaptive modification in sex ratio of the Seychelles warbler's eggs. Nature 385: 522-525.

4. The detection of density dependence depends on the scale at which these processes are investigated[1,2].
   [1] Chapter 2
   [2] Both, C., and M. E. Visser. 2000. Breeding territory size affects fitness: an experimental study on competition at the individual level. Journal of Animal Ecology 69:1021-1030.

5. The development of pedigrees will show that many cooperative breeding systems are actually not strictly ‘cooperative’ but represent a mixture of different mating systems.

6. Although territory quality has previously been qualified as a major causal determinant of fitness of Seychelles warblers[1], new analysis show that this measure is not associated with survival and reproduction in the long-term[2].
   [1] Komdeur, J. 1992. Importance of habitat saturation and territory quality for evolution of cooperative breeding in the Seychelles warbler. Nature 358:493-495.
   [2] Chapter 2 and 3, this thesis

7. Although the classic tourists’ image of a tropical island is typically associated with the presence of palm trees, awareness should be raised that these –often introduced– palm species have a serious negative effect on many native species.

8. The most disastrous island bottlenecks can be found on the Isle of Islay.